COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

19th of Mithunam 1103.

Monday, *the* ——————

2nd of July 1928.

The House met at Half-past Eleven of the Clock, the Deputy President in the Chair. All the Members except Messrs. Rao Bahadur John Kurian and Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar were present.

Introductory Speech.

Deputy President.—I regret very much that the Diwan-President is not present to welcome you all. I am not a man of speeches; but, all the same, I would extend a hearty welcome to you all to this Council, especially when we find so many new Members here. I hope you will conduct the Proceedings of the Council in the same fair spirit as you have been doing hitherto. I shall proceed to the next business in order.

Taking of oath.

(The Deputy President, and then all the Members, except Messrs. Rao Bahadur John Kurian, the Acting Chief Engineer, and Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar, the Diwan Peishkar, who were absent, took and subscribed the oath of aliegiance.)

Statement placed on the Table.

Deputy President.—The next item of business is the placing of a Statement by the Finance Member on the Council Table.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is it valid for a Member to give notice of placing a Statement before taking oath? I had sent some questions after my name was published in the Gazette, and then the Secretary wrote to me that it was invalid to ask questions before taking oath. I want to know if it is valid for a Government Member to do a similar thing before taking oath.

Deputy President.—I can dispense with the necessary notice. Even though notice was given before, the Statement is placed on the Table only after he was sworn in.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I do not know how the Chair can give him permission without the Member asking for the same.

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Deputy President.—What is it that you want? The point of order raised must be in connection with to-day's Proceedings. I find this as one of the items in the Agenda paper. Is notice necessary for placing a Statement on the Table?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Without notice, how can any matter come before the Council? And how can Members know of it?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Before taking the oath, a notice was circulated to the effect that this is one of the items.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—This notice was given to the Secretary to place it before the House, and not to the Members.

Deputy President.—Here you have notice of this.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Notice was given to the Secretary by the Finance Member to place it before the House to-day. Is it valid for him, before he took oath, to give notice to the Secretary?

Deputy President.—How do you say it is not valid?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—With reference to my notice of certain questions,—

Deputy President.—I have nothing to do with your questions now.

Under what provision is it that you say it is invalid?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The Secretary says that the notice of questions is invalid.

Deputy President.—That refers to another matter.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That rule must also apply to this case.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The Secretary to the Council wrote to me to say that "only after you take the prescribed oath, you have a right to give notice of questions, and that the notice now given is not, therefore, valid." I, therefore, say that this is also not valid.

Deputy President.—That may or may not be correct.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—"Under command of the President", the Secretary says that.

Deputy President.—You can take objection now only as to the placing of the Statement in the Council. I say it is valid.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—If there was no valid notice by the Finance Member, any Member is entitled to raise a point of order. Notice given to the Secretary is held valid in one case, and invalid in another.

Deputy President.—That may be wrong.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The Finance Member had no right to give a notice.

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Deputy President.—We must go by the Agenda paper.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—When the notice was sent, he was not a Member.

Deputy President.—I think you cannot take objection to the Agenda paper.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The Agenda paper is prepared by the Government. If they go wrong, are we to allow that? The Government said that the notice given by non-official Members was out of order; and so, now you have to give a ruling on this point.

Deputy President.—Under what particular provision is it invalid?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The Secretary, under command of the President, wrote to me that the notice of questions is out of order.

Deputy President.—That may or may not be wrong.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On that precedent, we now raise this point. The President can give us a ruling that it is valid. We want a ruling; that is all. The Secretary, under command of the President, gave us a reply that we were to re-submit those questions.

Deputy President.—That may or may not be correct. It will not invalidate this.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—When did the Finance Member submit this statement, Sir? If he submitted it before he took the oath, it is not valid. I am commanded by the President that my notice of questions is invalid, and that I am to re-submit them. That is the President's, and not the Secretary's decision. We do not lay any charge at the Secretary's door. You can give us a ruling on the point.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The analogy is incorrect. Under Rule 52, no notice is necessary.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That refers to an expenditure incurred by Government under Section 16 (9), and, in that case, no notice is necessary.

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Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—The Statement is dated to-day.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We were given notice of it a week ago.

Deputy President.—That notice was with regard to the programme.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That shows that the Statement was handed over to the Secretary. Then he was not the Finance Member. He was only the Accountant-General.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—No Statement was handed over to me. Only to-day I got one.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—He places the Statement only after he becomes the Finance Member.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Then our questions would have been taken into consideration after we took the oath. We take that as a precedent for our case. That is differential treatment.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I shall try to clear the mistake you are labouring under. The notice (Agenda) simply says what is going to happen in the Council. He is the Finance Member now. What is there to discuss ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There was no necessity to issue notices to us—

Deputy President.—That a Statement will be placed before the Council on this day !

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Before he became the Finance Member, he submitted this Statement to the Secretary.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I say, No.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—This objection will not apply to the next motion.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—The Statement is only placed to-day on the Table.

Deputy President.—Under what section do you say it requires notice ?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Our objection is about the next item—the n otions for Supplementary Grants.

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Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Under Rule 52 of the Legislative Council Rules, I beg to place on the Table the following Statement of Expenditure authorised by Government under section 16 (9) of the Legislative Council Regulation, VIII of 1098.

Item	Amount	Remarks
1. Land Revenue. B. Supplies and Services. Remittance of Treasure.	Rs. 150	Almost the whole of the budget allotment of Rs. 250 had to be spent by the end of Meenam to meet the charges on account of the transfer of money among the several treasuries according to requirements, and a sum of Rs. 150 more was found quite necessary to meet the expenditure of the remaining months. Hence the same was sanctioned.
2. Agriculture and Panchayats. 2. Farm Operations—Purchase of cattle.	Rs. 1,000	Owing to the prevalence of Rinder pest among the cattle in the Central Farm, about 45 animals succumbed to the disease in spite of all precautions. Most of the animals that died belonged to the working section and the purchase of at least a dozen animals was found absolutely necessary so that the ploughing and other operations may not suffer. Hence the additional allotment, the provision of Rs. 200 in the budget having already been adjusted towards the cost of the animals transferred from the Potteries in 1102.
3. Co-operative Societies. Temporary Establishment.	Rs. 768	Provision was at first made for the Temporary Establishment of one Inspector, one clerk and a peon only for a period of six months. For more efficient inspection of the Societies, propaganda work, etc., not only was the extension of the staff found necessary, but also the entertainment of an additional Inspector and a peon on Rs. 35—50 and Rs. 9 respectively from 1st Makaram 1103. Hence an additional allotment of Rs. 768 was found absolutely necessary.

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Item	Amount.	Remarks
Travelling allowance.	Rs. 1,100	On account of the increased tours which the Registrar and his executive staff had to perform and also partly due to the increased staff of the department, the budget allotment of Rs 3,200 was almost spent up by Medam 1103. An additional allotment of Rs. 1,100 had therefore to be sanctioned to meet the expenditure for the remaining months of the year.
Service labels.	Rs. 75	The whole budget allotment of Rs. 200 was exhausted during the 1st 9 months of the year on account of increased correspondence and an allotment had to be provided for the last three months on an average of Rs. 25 a month. An additional allotment of Rs. 75 had thus to be urgently granted.
Rents, etc.	Rs. 100	During the course of the year a house-rent allowance of Rs. 5 each per month was sanctioned to the Co-operative Inspectors for which there was no provision in the budget. Hence this had to be sanctioned under a new sub-head of expenditure.
13. General Administration. IV. Legislative Council. Purchase and repair of furniture.	Rs. 450	Out of the budget allotment of Rs. 200 a sum of about Rs. 115 was expended up to the beginning of Edavam 1103 when an expenditure of about Rs. 520 more had to be incurred towards the cost of ballot boxes made for the Legislative Council Elections. Hence an additional allotment of Rs. 450 was found urgently necessary and the same was sanctioned.
14. Accounts and Finance. Temporary Establishment.	Rs. 622—8—0	As in 1102 the entertainment of an auditor on Rs. 35 per mensem for a period of 3½ months was found quite necessary to relieve the congestion of work entailed by the checking and compilation of the budget for 1104. An additional allotment of Rs. 122—8—0 was found necessary for this.

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Item	Amount.	Remarks
Temporary Establishment (*contd.*)	Rs.622—8—0	For the proper guidance of the audit staff for inspecting offices subject to Local Audit and for maintaining uniformity of procedure in both the Local Audit divisions there is no manual of instruction as in British India or Mysore. To compile such a manual the Senior Assistant Comptroller has been deputed for three months from 1st Edavam 1103. Rs. 500 had to be provided as additional allotment for this. Hence Rs. 622—8—0 in all.
16. Jails. (1) Central Jail. Travelling allowance.	Rs. 900	The Jail Committee had to be paid travelling allowance for the journeys made by them in connection with their work. As this item of expenditure was not anticipated at the time of framing the budget and as the payment of travelling allowance could not be postponed the same (Rs. 900) had to be sanctioned urgently.
18. Education. (2) Maharaja's College. Furniture and Apparatus	Rs. 3,000	When Ernakulam was made a centre for the B. A. Examination in Natural Science, the equipment of the laboratory was found inadequate for the requirement of the candidates from Trivandrum—about 30 in all. It was therefore found quite necessary to purchase at least 10 more microscopes and a dozen dissecting lenses. An additional allotment of Rs. 3,000 had thus to be sanctioned urgently.
21. Medical. (1) Hospitals. Stipends and Scholarships	Rs. 150.	The provision of Rs. 600 covered only the stipend required for one year: but the stipendiary had to be paid her stipend for the 2nd half of Mithunam 1102 also (Rs. 25) for which there was no allotment. Again, a sum of Rs. 125 had also to be paid towards the cost of books and instruments for the stipendiary as recommended by the Principal. Hence an additional allotment of Rs. 150 had to be urgently sanctioned for both these items.

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Item	Amount	Remarks
29. Scientific, etc., Department. 3 (b) G. T. School, Trichur. Furniture and Tools. Miscellaneous.	Rs. 2,000	For meeting the transport charges of timber, furniture, etc., and fitting up of engines and looms in the new building an additional allotment of Rs. 1,500 was found necessary, the provision of Rs. 1,000 made in the budget having been utilised for payment of rent and some other unforeseen items of expenditure. A sum of Rs 500 was also sanctioned under 'Furniture and Tools' for the purchase of frame looms. Hence the additional allotment of Rs. 2,000.
3 (c) G. T. School, Ernakulam. Miscellaneous.	Rs. 700	Owing to the fire accident in the old G. T. School, Ernakulam, about Rs. 712 worth of articles both unfinished and raw materials together were damaged. The sale of some waste pieces of timber and half-burnt wood brought down the loss to above Rs. 706 and this had to be written off from the head 'Advance for raw materials'. For want of funds under 'Miscellaneous' towards this purpose an additional allotment of Rs. 700 was urgently sanctioned.
		Cranganur.
I. Land Revenue. (e) Travelling allowance.	Rs. 300	The budget allotment of Rs. 1,000 for the current year under 'Travelling allowance' was found quite insufficient and an additional grant of Rs. 300 had to be urgently sanctioned. The expenditure for 1102 also under 'Travelling allowance' was Rs. 1,300.
(f) Antirabic treatment	Rs. 25	Due to the increase in the number of indigent persons who had to be sent to the General Hospital, the budget allotment of Rs. 15 was found inadequate and an additional allotment of Rs. 25 was urgently sanctioned.

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Item	Amount	Remarks
12 Education. (3) Primary Education—Boys' J. Pulaya Education.	Rs. 250	The sum of Rs. 140 allotted for the Education of the Depressed Classes was nearly exhausted when about 3 months' feeding of school children was paid for; an additional allotment of Rs. 250 had therefore to be urgently granted under the head.
18. Public Works. (c) Communications-Buildings, etc.	Rs. 5,893-6-4	Of the additional allotment of Rs. 5,893—6—4 the major part, viz., Rs. 4,040 is for payment towards the work of reconstructing the bridge over Perumthodu for which there was an allotment of Rs. 1,600 only in the year as against the estimated amount of Rs. 5,640. As delay in the payment of the interim bills to the contractor was affecting the progress of the work, an additional allotment had to be urgently sanctioned. Similarly additional allotments were found necessary to complete some other works as the repairs to the Narayanamangalam Bridge, Protective works to Vijayam Thodu, P. C. R. payment of deficit amount on account of the guarantee for the maintenance of Telegraph lines and Office at Cranganur, etc.

Demands for Supplementary Grants.

Demand XIII—Huzur—Travelling Allowance.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, I ask for leavre to move for an additional grant of Rs. 400 under "XIII—Huzur—Travelling Allowance". The allotment sanctioned in the budget under that head was Rs. 3,500. A sum of Rs. 430 was transferred from savings, available under that head. The whole amount has been exhausted. An additional sum of Rs. 400 is necessary to meet the expenses for the remaining months of the year. Savings are available under "XXXI—Miscellaneous—Political Expenditure—Entertainment of State Guests."

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I rise to a point of order. This is not a regular motion. Has the Member taken the oath before

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